

DOCKET NO.: TIC-0010

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In Re Application of:**

**Kazuhiro Maeno and Eiji Kono**

**Application No.: 10/019,201**

**Filing Date: December 20, 2001**

**For: Semiconductor Device**

**Confirmation No.: 9902**

**Group Art Unit: 2815**

**Examiner: Chris C. Chu**

**EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EV 160095255US**  
**DATE OF DEPOSIT: May 2, 2003**

EV160095255US

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

- ☐ In accordance with § 1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in § 1.491, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or

before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of request for continued examination under § 1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with § 1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

☐ Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e) is attached; or

☐ The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is attached.

☐ In accordance with § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in § 1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, or before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, therefore:

☐ Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e) is attached;  
or

☐ The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is attached.

☒ In accordance with § 1.97(d), this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the Issue Fee, therefore included are: Certification in Accordance with § 1.97(e); and the submission fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p).

☒ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

- ☐ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

## EXCEPT THAT:

- ☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.
- ☐ In accordance with § 1.98(d), copies of the following references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed herewith because they were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in patent application(s) for which a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 have been made in the instant application:
- ☐ Copies of references [list as appropriate] listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior Application No. , filed .
- ☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3050. This form is submitted in duplicate.

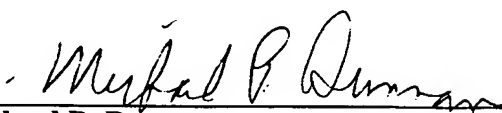
DOCKET NO.: TIC-0010

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PATENT

Attached is a copy of the German Office Action dated February 4, 2003 containing the relevance of the references cited therein. An English language abstract is provided for reference 2.

Date: May 2, 2003

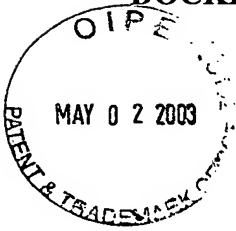
  
Michael P. Dunnam  
Registration No. 32,611

WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP  
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Telephone: (215) 568-3100  
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439

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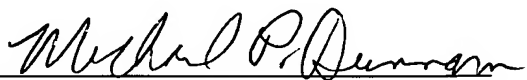
**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(e)**

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e), certification is hereby made that:

- ☒ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Date: May 2, 2003

  
**Michael P. Dunnam**  
Registration No. **32,611**

Woodcock Washburn LLP  
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor  
Philadelphia PA 19103  
Telephone: (215) 568-3100  
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439

**Form PTO-1449 Modified**

List of Patent and Publications  
Cited by Applicant  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office

Docket No.  
**TIC-0010**

Application No.  
**10/019,201**

Applicants  
**Kazuhiro Maeno and Eiji Kono**

Filing Date  
**December 20, 2001**

Group  
**2815**

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass
	1	5,444,295	08/22/95	Lake, et al.	257	678

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation	
					YES	NO
	2	DE 299 21 937	03/09/00	Germany		XX (abstract only)

**EXAMINER****DATE CONSIDERED**